

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 06270 121955Z

14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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TO DOD WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 2386

INFO CNO WASHDC

USMTM DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 06270

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRINCE TURKI TO UNDERSECDEF CLEMENTS

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM DEPSECDEF PRINCE TURKI TO UNDERSECDEF CLEMENTS. BEGIN TEXT: QUOTE. MR. WILLIAM CLEMENTS, UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, WASHINGTON, D.C., DEAR MR. CLEMENTS: I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF 28 AUGUST PERTAINING TO THE TWO SAUDI NAVY LCU'S CURRENTLY BEING BUILT BY NEWPORT SHIPPING YARD, AND TO THE PROBLEMS WITH THEIR CONSTRUCTION OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS. WE HAVE ANALYSED AND STUDIED THE SUBJECT FROM ALL ASPECTS AND DISCUSSED IT WITH ADMIRAL ROBERT HANKS. ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1975, HOWEVER, WE FOUND NO SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION FOR THE DELAYS, RISE IN COST AND IN DELIVERY. ALL OF THESE PROBLEMS ARE A RESULT OF MISTAKES BY THE U.S. NAVY AND THE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, MISTAKES OF WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY IS AWARE, AND OF WHICH THE SAUDI NAVY HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH. NONETHELESS WE FIND OURSELVES FORCED TO ACCEPT THE SOLUTION TO WHICH YOU REFERRED IN YOUR LETTER AND WHICH WAS RECOMMENDED BY HANKS. I HOPE THIS WILL MOTIVATE YOU TO ATTEND FULLY TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF OUR NAVAL FORCES WITH REGARD TO ACCURATE IMPLEMENTATION AND SPEEDY DELIVERY. I

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ALSO HOPE THAT THE EXPERIENCE OF THIS PROBLEM MAY BE A

LESSON TO ALL OF US. I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL BE
ABLE TO AVOID SUCH PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE AND THAT YOU
APPRECIATE OUR DEFENSIVE CONDITIONS. WE HAVE AUTHORIZED
THE COMMANDER OF THE NAVAL FORCES ACCORDINGLY. WITH WARM
REGARDS., /S/ HRH PRINCE TURKI BIN ABD AL-AZIZ, DEPUTY
MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND AVIATION.
AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: buchant0
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: MASS, SA, (TURKI BIN ABD AL-AZIZ)
To: DOD STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006